

Capitol Calculations

Objectives:

Students will be able to:

- a. Write story problems using information about the Capitol Building
- b. Solve story problems

Materials:

- 3x5 index cards
- Slide show from the trunk
- Self-guiding tour booklets for each student
- Facts about the Capitol that involve numbers
- Copies of the accompanying worksheet

Introduction:

- Show the slide show that came in the trunk. (This can be done a day or two ahead of teaching this lesson.)
- Review certain facts about the Capitol that involve numbers. The students can help find them in their tour booklets. Write these on the board or overhead. These may include important dates, size specifications, numbers that serve in the House or Senate, etc. Ask the students to help you remember.

Activity:

- Pass out one index card to each student.
- Instruct the students to come up with a story problem involving some of the information about the Capitol and write it on the card. Also remind them to put their name on the card.
- After a few minutes, collect and shuffle the cards.
- Have a student pick one of the cards from the deck in your hand and read the problem to the class.
- First ask the class if there is enough information to be able to solve the problem. If there is, then have the students solve it on paper. Next, call on one to do it on the board so they can check their work.
- Repeat this process for the amount of time that you have.
- For independent practice, assign the accompanying worksheet for homework.

Assessment:

- For an actual grade, score the students on the problems they wrote and on the completed worksheets.
- During the activity, assess their problem solving skills as students go to the board.